

OLC 70-0865

10 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff,
Senate Armed Services Committee**

1. During a conversation with him today Ed Braswell advised me in confidence that Senator Stennis was adding a new member to the Armed Services Committee staff. Braswell did not identify him by name, but said he was presently working for Dr. Kissinger in the White House staff and at one point in the conversation referred to him as "Jim."

2. Braswell said he had been spread much too thin this past year and had been unable to keep Chairman Stennis fully informed on developments throughout the world. He indicated that this would be a primary function of the new staff member. He went on to say that "Jim" has had access in his present position to the Agency's daily intelligence reports and apparently has expressed the hope that he will continue to have access to them when he assumes his responsibilities on the Hill. I presume he is referring to the Current Intelligence Bulletin.

3. I told Braswell this raised certain problems for I was quite certain these reports were not disseminated outside of the intelligence community and it would pose a considerable problem with respect to the physical security aspects of having such reports stored in a repository on the Hill. I suggested an alternative of periodic and even perhaps daily briefings, but Braswell said "Jim would not stand for this."

4. As an alternative I suggested that Chairman Stennis might want to resume a procedure which he used for a short period of time when Senator Russell was originally hospitalized with emphysema. During that time [] briefed the Chairman and other interested CIA Subcommittee members on the world situation at periodic intervals.

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I said that since Chairman Stennis would ultimately have to take the time to be briefed on these matters by someone, it might be best if he received them directly. Braswell said this was a distinct possibility and added that Stennis might decide to have weekly briefings of the Subcommittee along these lines.

5. Mr. Braswell repeated a statement which he has made a number of times during the past to the effect that Senator Stennis has not been satisfied with the way the CIA Subcommittee has operated since he assumed the position of Chairman and wanted to make some changes next year.

6. Braswell said he did not want to raise these questions formally now, but thought we should think about them and talk about them again later on.



Deputy Legislative Counsel

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